

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OEXC, HU

SUBJECT: HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE COURSE FOR US STUDENTS

1. JAN PERKOWSKI, PROFESSOR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE SLAVIC DEPARTMENT, UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA (CHARLOTTESVILLE), WILL VISIT BUDAPEST JANUARY 5 TO 8 TO DISCUSS WITH THE HUNGARIANS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTENSIVE SIX-WEEK SUMMER HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE COURSE FOR AMERICAN STUDENTS BEGINNING IN 1978. EMBASSY WILL RECALL THAT CU/EE DIRECTOR RICHMOND MENTIONED PERKOWSKI VISIT TO ENDRE POLGAR DURING THE PROGRAM NEGOTIATIONS IN BUDAPEST EARLIER THIS MONTH.

2. PERKOWSKI WILL ARRIVE BUDAPEST JANUARY 5 BY RAIL FROM ZAGREB AND PLANS TO SEE DACHI OR BORYCKI AT THE EMBASSY EARLY IN THE MORNING OF JANUARY 6 BEFORE CALLING ON POLGAR. REQUEST EMBASSY SEEK POLGAR APPOINTMENT FOR PERKOWSKI LATER THAT MORNING.

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3. WHILE WE BELIEVE IT PREFERABLE FOR PERKOWSKI HIMSELF TO EXPLAIN HIS PROPOSAL TO KKI, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WILL BE USEFUL TO EMBASSY AS BACKGROUND. PERKOWSKI REPRESENTS THE INTER-UNIVERSITY COUNCIL ON EAST EUROPEAN LANGUAGE PROGRAMS (IUCEELP), AN ASSOCIATION OF 27 US

UNIVERSITIES WITH PROGRAMS OF EAST EUROPEAN LANGUAGE STUDY. HE IS APPLYING FOR AN HEW/OE GROUP PROJECT ABROAD GRANT WHICH WOULD ASSIST IN FUNDING APPROXIMATELY 15 US STUDENTS FOR INTENSIVE LANGUAGE COURSE IN HUNGARY. COURSE WOULD BE PLANNED FOR STUDENTS NOT FLUENT IN THE LANGUAGE BUT WOULD REQUIRE AT LEAST ONE YEAR OF PRIOR HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE STUDY IN THE US. OBJECTIVE WOULD BE TO DEVELOP POOL OF YOUNGER US SCHOLARS WITH HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE CAPABILITY. A SIMILAR PROGRAM HAS BEEN CONDUCTED AT ZAGREB IN SERBO-CROAT, AND ONE IN ROMANIAN IS PLANNED FOR BUCHAREST IN 1978. PERKOWSKI BELIEVES THE HUNGARIAN COURSE AT DEBRECZEN IS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR THE NEEDS OF THE AMERICAN STUDENTS, AND THAT A SEPARATE COURSE WOULD BE ADVISABLE. NO CU FUNDING WOULD BE REQUIRED,

SINCE COSTS OF THE PROGRAM WOULD BE COVERED BY THE HEW/OE GRANT AND A FEE PAID BY THE PARTICIPATING STUDENTS.
ROBINSON

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